

Box 154 Sep-Nov 1888

Treasury Department,

BUREAU OF THE MINT,

Washington, D. C., November 8, 1888.

Hon. Daniel M. Fox,

Superintendent U. S. Mint,

Philadelphia.

Sir:

I have before me yours of the 25th ultimo enclosing proposals for fifty thousand (50,000) pounds, more or less, of One-cent Blanks, milled and cleaned, as per advertisement for which authority was given you on the 12th ultimo, with the recommendation that the proposal of Joseph Wharton be accepted at the price of thirty-four and nine-tenths (34.9) cents per pound, accompanied by the supplementary offer on his part of

"the entire quantity of such blanks that the Mint shall need during one year from this date" (October 25, 1888), "not exceeding a total of 300,000 lbs. beyond the first 50,000 lbs., at the same price of 34 9-10 cts. per lb."

I have also before me a copy of a communication to you from Mr. Joseph Wharton dated November 3, 1888, (enclosed with yours of same date,) in which he writes as follows:

"My bid of Oct. 25th, 1888, for delivering to the Mint all bronze one cent coin blanks which might be needed within a year, not exceeding a total of 350,000 lbs., may be construed to mean that the blanks shall be annealed, as well as milled and cleaned. Your letter accepting that bid may therefore stipulate that the blanks are to be delivered annealed, cleaned and milled, at my bidding price of thirty four and nine tenth cents per pound."

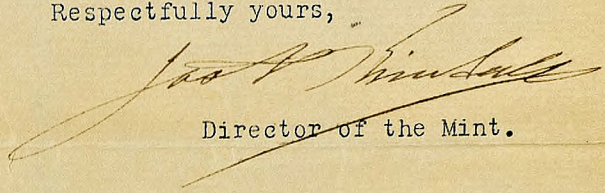
On the subject of this proposal I have to say that while I do not think it would be expedient to accept Mr. Wharton's proposal in the exact terms as above quoted, I should probably approve a contract made with him for the specified blanks, at the price offered and in the advanced condition provided, ready for coinage, and for ^{an undetermined} quantity not exceeding three hundred and fifty thousand (350,000) pounds, to be delivered within one year from date of contract, subject to requisition in quantities of not less than fifty thousand (50,000) pounds, from time to time, as may be deemed expedient.

In a transaction of this magnitude Treasury rules require that formal contracts be executed. You are therefore authorized to submit for approval a contract in accordance with the above, with the adoption, as far as may be, of terms specifically drawn as I have here indicated.

Under the existing circumstances of an early change in the Administration, and the probability that this contract will pass into the term of my successor in office, I feel it imperative to require all formalities in the transaction now proposed, and therefore send you a copy of "Form 42, Office of Supervising Architect, Treasury Department," such as is used throughout the Department.

A bond executed in the sum of ten thousand dollars will, in the case of a person so well-known to the Government as Mr. Whar-ton, be considered satisfactory.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jas A Minahan", written in dark ink. The signature is fluid and extends across the line of the typed name below it.

Director of the Mint.

Treasury Dept.
Washington, D. C.
November 8. 1888.

James. P. Kimball
Director.

Answer to Letter of 23rd -
recommending that
Proposal of Joseph Wharton
for 50,000 lbs one cent
Blocks, - at 34.9 $\frac{9}{10}$ cts
per lb. be accepted



[Abstract:] Answer to Letter of 23" recommended that proposal of Joseph Wharton...

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